to enable the people to see these issues from the standpoint of history, also.

Standing Committee's views:

Various Institutions are, bringing out publications on Economic History of India viz. (1) Delhi School of Economics, Delhi (2) Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta and (3) Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi. The Vth Plan Schemes of National Archives of India and most States Archives have already been finalised and approved by Planning Commission. At present due to paucity of funds the National Archives of India is not in a position to take up any new publication programme. Report of the Committee on Archival Legislation (December 1960) has recommended that the publication programme in hand should cease after the twenty-one volumes of the Fort-William India House Correspondence project have been published. Each State Archives has its own publication programme and bring out publication on various topics every year subject to the availability of funds. The Learned Institutions and the Universities, however, may take up the publication programme regarding the 20 points. The National Archives of India and the States Archives could give all assistance in this work.

(G) Preservation of private records by political leaders and men of eminence

(7) Resolution by Professor M.N.Das

"Resolved that on behalf of the Indian Historical Records Commission, Circulars in forms of appeals be sent to political leaders and men of eminence in different walks of life to preserve their private, demi-official or official correspondences for the benefit of the future."

Explanatory Note

On enquiry we have painfully discovered that many of our responsible men in different eminent positions do not possess a sense of value of their own activities and they want only to destroy their correspondences, personal, official or demi-official, obliterating thereby valuable information for future. In Western countries, men of importance are known to have been in habit of preserving their writings with considerable care. Many of them leave their strictly private documents under codicil to wills for use after a lapse of time. In India, we need develop a purposive sense in our notables as regard their own values in the context of contemporary history to be utilised in future times.

Standing Committee's views:

Since 1948 earnest efforts have been made by the National Archives of India in acquiring private papers of eminent Indians from different walk of life on loan, by purchase or as gift, and quite a large number of such papers have been acquired and preserved scientifically in this Department. Efforts, made by several other institutions in acquiring private papers of eminent political leaders are also quite commendable.

The papers are acquired by issuing appeals through the press, Radio, Television and by contacting the Institutions and persons concerned. The papers are made available to the bonafide research scholars conducting research in this Department, subject to certain conditions laid down by the owners of the papers. Radio talks are also being given by Directors of various State Archives from the

local radio stations for the preservation of records. The draft Resolution might further help these efforts in an important field.

(H) Formation of a Committee to advise the State Governments for preservation of valuable files

(8) Resolution by Prof. M.N.Das

"Resolved that a Special Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission be deputed on behalf of the Commission to different state capitals to advise the state governments in matters of selection and preservation of valuable files in view of their ultimate transfer to State Archives".

Explanatory Note

It is the duty of the Commission to advise and assist different state governments in matters of selection of valuable official papers for transfer to State Archives. It is not always a case that different secretaries of various departments are aware of the archival value of the numerous files they set aside as closed. The purpose of the Special Committee should be to meet chief secretaries and other secretaries in conferences to bring home to them the value of various records in their broader historical perspective. As a follow up, trained Archivists of State Archives will help respective secretaries in processing the disposed files for subsequent transfer.

Standing Committee's views:

A Resolution was passed at the 43rd Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission recommending that "The Commission is greatly perturbed over the reported large